



News for Immediate Release

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Lake Oroville Almost Full

OROVILLE - Lake Oroville is predicted to be full sometime between Memorial Day weekend and the first week of June.

Lake Oroville's maximum storage capacity is approximately 3.5 million acre-feet. Jim Blood, Oroville Field Division Chief, said the lake is considered full when it reaches the 900-foot elevation mark. Spring runoff coming into the lake is allowing lake levels to quickly approach that elevation.

This Memorial Day weekend is expected to bring in many visitors to the Lake Oroville Recreation Area due to high water levels. Lake levels are expected to still be high over the Fourth of July weekend, dropping only five to ten feet from the full mark. "Lake levels will gradually drop throughout the summer months to meet the needs of the State Water Project," Blood said.

Lake Oroville is the principal storage facility for the State Water Project, the nation's largest State-built multipurpose water development project. The reservoir is the second largest in California, surpassed only by Lake Shasta in the federal Central Valley Project.

Lake Oroville Recreation Area provides many recreation opportunities such as boating, camping, swimming, hiking, and both horseback and bike riding along the trails around the lake. Houseboats and floating campsites are also available on Lake Oroville.

Lake Oroville is located about 75 miles north of Sacramento and is easily reached via State Highway 70.

For more information on recreation opportunities at Lake Oroville contact the Department of

Parks and Recreation, which operates the Lake Oroville Recreation Area, at (530) 538-2200. Also check the Department of Water Resources Lake Oroville recreation web site at: <http://www.lakeoroville.water.ca.gov>.

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

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